

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 081752

EXDIS, FOR DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDEV, WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: TALKING POINTS FOR DEPUTY SECRETARY
CHRISTOPHER

REF: BONN 5685

FOLLOWING ARE TALKING POINTS ON NAMIBIA FOR USE IN YOUR
MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER. YOU SHOULD ALSO
DRAW ON DAR ES SALAAM'S 1290 PER REQUEST IN BONN 5656.

-- WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT SWAPO'S APPARENT LACK OF FLEXI-
BILITY ON THE REMAINING KEY ISSUES IN THE NEGOTIATIONS.
SOUTH AFRICA HAS LIKEWISE SHOWN LITTLE INCLINATION TO
COMPROMISE.

-- AS FAR AS WE CAN TELL, SWAPO HAS MAINTAINED VIRTUALLY
THE SAME POSITION IT HAD IN NEW YORK ON KEY ISSUES SUCH
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AS SOUTH AFRICAN TROOP WITHDRAWAL, SIZE OF THE UN FORCE,
AND THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL
AND THE UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE.

-- WE ARE TROUBLED BY THE GROWING CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE
LINKING SWAPO TO KAPUUNO'S ASSASSINATION AND INDICATING
THAT SWAPO MAY HAVE PLANS TO ELIMINATE ITS LEADING POLITICAL

OPPONENTS IN NAMIBIA. AT THE LEAST, NUJOMA'S COMMENTS WHICH APPEARED TO WELCOME KAPUUNO'S DEATH HAVE BEEN MOST UNFORTUNATE.

-- DURING THE RECENT COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA MEETING IN LUSAKA, SWAPO TOLD A YUGOSLAV DELEGATE THAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE FIVE WERE "FINISHED." FURTHER, WE UNDERSTAND THAT NUJOMA PLANS TO LEAVE TOMORROW FOR AN EXTENDED TOUR OF INDIA AND THE FAR EAST, HARDLY AN ENCOURAGING SIGN OF SWAPO'S INTEREST IN FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH US.

-- ON WALVIS BAY, NUJOMA RECENTLY INDICATED TO ANDY YOUNG AND NYERERE INDICATED TO US SEPARATELY THAT SWAPO WOULD LIKE SOME SORT OF PUBLIC AFFIRMATION BY THE FIVE OR BY THE UN THAT THE TERRITORY IS PART OF NAMIBIA. ANY SUCH STATEMENT ON WALVIS BAY MUST BE DEvised IN SUCH A WAY AS TO MINIMIZE THE NEGATIVE REACTION IT WOULD PROVOKE FROM SOUTH AFRICA.

-- ALTHOUGH WE ARE GIVING SOME THOUGHT TO A STATEMENT INDICATING THAT WE BELIEVE WALVIS BAY SHOULD BE PART OF AN INDEPENDENT NAMIBIA, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT DOING SO WOULD NECESSARILY LEAD TO SWAPO'S ACCEPTANCE OF OUR PROPOSAL.
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-- INDEED, SWAPO HAS GIVEN NO INDICATION OF BUDGING FROM ITS POSITION ON OTHER KEY ISSUES. (NUJOMA DID TELL ANDY YOUNG AND NYERERE THAT HE MIGHT CONSIDER WINDHOEK AS AN ALTERNATE SITE FOR THE SOUTH AFRICAN RESIDUAL FORCE, BUT THIS WOULD NOT BE A SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT OVER KARASBURG.)

-- KAPUUNO'S MURDER IS LIKELY TO HAVE HARDENED THE ATTITUDE OF SOUTH AFRICA, WHICH WAS NOT INCLINED TO COMPROMISE IN ANY CASE. INDEED, THE SOUTH AFRICANS APPEAR TO BE USING THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE FIVE AS A MEANS TO PLACE THE BLAME FOR THE FAILURE TO REACH A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT ON SWAPO.

-- THE KEY TO PREVENTING THE SAG FROM GOING AHEAD WITH AN INTERNAL SOLUTION IN NAMIBIA WOULD BE TO GAIN ACCEPTANCE BY THE FRONT LINE AND SWAPO OF THE FIVE'S PROPOSAL. COOPER

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